

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Harraway on February 2, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A dialysis machine for performing kidney dialysis comprising:

an enclosure having a removable base and comprising;

a front panel having associated a plurality of connectors, a plurality of smart function keys, a touch panel element and a voice activated sensor ;
said front panel in communication with an electronic circuit element having a controller in communication therewith;

a blood flow element ~~including~~ ;

a hydraulic flow element; and

a water reservoir and a power supply.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) A dialysis machine for performing kidney dialysis comprising:

an enclosure having:

Art Unit: 1772

a blood flow element in communication with an electronic circuit element and a front panel having a touch panel display and control element; and

said blood flow element comprising:

a serial blood flow path;

a blood pump and a dialyzer;

an arterial chamber having a transducer and a venous chamber having a venous transducer; and

a port and said blood flow element connectable to a patient blood flow system.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Independent claim 1 now distinguishes over all the applied prior art of record and also over newly cited Ballantyne patent 5,867,821 and Lebel patent 6,958,705 in view of recitation of dialysis machine having an enclosure that has each of touch panel, voice-activated sensor and blood flow element. Claim 6 similarly distinguishes in view of recitation of dialysis machine having an enclosure that has a front panel having a touch panel display and control element and a blood flow element that includes blood pump, dialyzer and chambers. Claim 1 was also corrected to indicate that the blood flow element and hydraulic flow element are separate.

Support for this examiners amendment is found at paragraphs 17 and 19 of the instant Specification. In the prior art, the touch panel display and control element is separate from the enclosure for the blood flow element and other blood-handling components of the dialysis machine. The claimed combination non-obviously provides a more portable arrangement for a dialysis machine.

Art Unit: 1772

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

JWD

2/2/2011

/Joseph W. Drodge/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1772